

**00801**

**1986/06/09**

UNCLASSIFIED

Department of State

φ ETC  
Satellite

INCOMING  
TELEGRAM

PAGE 01 BEIJING 12927 090743Z  
ACTION OES-03

0486 EAPB051

BEIJING 12927 090743Z

0486 EAPB051

INFO C-04 P-01 RA-01 UN-01 X-01 /000 A2 WMCG

KNOW THE DETAILS OF THE INSURANCE PLAN. NILSSON  
COMMENTED THAT SWEDEN IS NOT SO CONCERNED ABOUT  
RESTRICTING TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER TO THE CHINESE, SO HE  
DID NOT BELIEVE THAT THIS WAS A FACTOR IN INSURING THE  
SATELLITE.

INFO LOG-00 COPY-01 ADS-00 INR-10 EUR-00 SS-00 CIAE-00  
DOOE-00 NSAE-00 L-03 PH-10 EAP-00 CIP-07 AGDA-12  
DOEE-00 /052 W

JOHNSON

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P 090736Z JUN 86  
FM AMEMBASSY BEIJING  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY A002

USDOC WASHDC  
NASA WASHDC  
NOAA ROCKVILLE  
KENNEDY SPACE CENTER FL  
NASA JOHNSON SPACE CEN HOUSTON TX  
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM  
AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMCONSUL CHENGDU FOUCH

UNCLAS BEIJING 12927

FOR EAP/C AND OES/SCT; NASA FOR LIB-15; USIA FOR EA;  
NOAA FOR NESDIS -- E/ER - 1; KENNEDY SPACE CENTER FOR  
DIRECTOR SMITH

E.O. 12356: N/A  
TAGS: TSPA, PNR, RSCA, CH, US  
SUBJECT: SWEDEN MAY SIGN SATELLITE LAUNCH AGREEMENT  
WITH CHINA BEFORE THE END OF 1986; LAUNCH WILL BE MORE  
DISTANT

REF: A) STATE 153259 B) BEIJING 12235 C) BEIJING 11528

1. IN A DISCUSSION WITH CHRISTER NILSSON, TECHNICAL  
ATTACHE AT THE SWEDISH EMBASSY, ENBOFF LEARNED THAT  
SWEDEN HAS NOT ONLY SIGNED A LETTER OF INTENT TO LAUNCH  
MAILSTAR, A MAILBOX-TYPE COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITE, BUT  
NILSSON EXPECTS THE AGREEMENT ITSELF TO BE SIGNED BY THE  
END OF THE YEAR. THE SWedes HAVE ALREADY PUT DOWN A  
FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLAR DEPOSIT. NILSSON COMMENTED THAT A  
DOWNPAYMENT IS NECESSARY TO GUARANTEE SWEDEN'S  
COMMITMENT TO THE PROJECT, BUT THE FIGURE IS SMALL  
BECAUSE THE SATELLITE ITSELF IS SMALL. NEVERTHELESS,  
THE CHINESE HAVE GREATLY TOUTED THIS  
LIKELY-TO-BE-FINALIZED AGREEMENT AS CHINA'S FIRST  
SUCCESS IN SEIZING THE SATELLITE-LAUNCHING MARKET AFTER  
U.S. AND FRENCH ROCKET FAILURES.

2. BECAUSE OF THE SATELLITE'S SMALL SIZE, THE CHINESE  
PLAN TO LAUNCH IT IN TANDEM WITH A CHINESE SATELLITE.  
THE LAUNCH DATE DEPENDS ON THE LAUNCH SCHEDULE OF THE  
CHINESE COMPANION SATELLITE, TENTATIVELY SET FOR  
SOMETIME WITHIN TWENTY-FOUR MONTHS AFTER THE AGREEMENT  
IS SIGNED. NILSSON SAID THAT THE SWedes ARE UNCONCERNED  
ABOUT LONG DELAYS, BECAUSE SWEDEN HAS NO EXACTING TIME  
SCHEDULE TO MEET. IN FACT, NEITHER THE SWedes NOR THE  
THE CHINESE KNOW YET IF THE PROPOSED METHOD OF LAUNCH  
WILL PROVE FEASIBLE. THE SATELLITE MUST GO INTO ORBIT  
AT A RANGE WHICH THE LONG MARCH 2 ROCKET CANNOT REACH,  
SO AN ORBITAL TRANSFER MODULE, A SMALL BOOSTER ROCKET,  
WILL BE NECESSARY TO CARRY THE SWEDISH SATELLITE A THIRD  
STEP. THE SWedes, WITH CHINESE COOPERATION, WILL FIRST  
HAVE TO CONDUCT A FEASIBILITY STUDY ON THE MODULE IDEA.  
A SWEDISH COMPANY, ERICSSON, WILL BUILD THE SATELLITE.

3. NILSSON SAID THAT PEOPLES BANK HAD AGREED TO INSURE  
THE SATELLITE AS PART OF THE CONTRACT, BUT HE DID NOT

IS/PIC/ODR

MR Cases Only:  
EO Citations

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TS authority to:  
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( ) DOWNGRADE TS to ( ) B or ( ) C OADR

Ed  
6/26/92

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